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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2615
DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

Rsp due (3mo)
6/30/03
Jad

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/446,790

Applicant(s)

Ueno

Examiner
Christopher O. Onuaku

Art Unit
2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 4-11, and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 4-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 6,7&8 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2615

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 13&14 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 in view of Marumoto et al (US 5,774,190).

Regarding claim 2, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 discloses the claimed:

a) luminance signal reproduction means for reproducing a luminance signal from a recording medium (see luminance signal reproduction circuit 142);

Art Unit: 2615

b) first color signal reproduction means for reproducing a first color difference signal from the recording medium (see B-Y signal reproduction circuit 147 that reproduces B-Y color difference signal);

c) second color signal reproduction means for reproducing a second color difference signal from the recording medium (see B-Y signal reproduction circuit 148 that reproduces R-Y color difference signal);

d) color signal encoding means for converting the first color difference signal output from the first color difference signal reproduction means and the second color difference signal output from the second color difference signal reproduction means into a carrier color signal (see color signal encoder circuit 146);

e) adding means for adding the luminance signal output from the luminance signal reproduction means and the carrier color signal output from the color signal encoding means, and outputting a composite video signal (see adder circuit 143 and the composite signal CV output from the adder circuit 143).

Applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 fails to explicitly disclose a luminance signal output terminal for outputting both the luminance signal and the composite video signal.

Marumoto et al teach an encoder for converting digital display signals into analog television signal wherein the output of the color carrier generating circuit 17 output to a D/A converter terminal 10 include luminance signal YA output through the D/A 19 and composite signal SD output through D/A 20 as signal SA (see Fig. 4; col. 4, lines 1-28). It would have been

Art Unit: 2615

obvious to modify applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 by adding an output terminal for outputting both the luminance signal and the composite signal, as taught by Marumoto, in order to output both the luminance signal and the composite signal through a common terminal, thereby reducing construction costs.

4. Claims 4,5&6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant admitted prior art Fig. 13 in view of Hatae et al (US 6,091,880).

Regarding claim 4, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 13 discloses the claimed:

a) a first input terminal for inputting a luminance signal (see input terminal 156 that inputs luminance signal Y);

b) a second signal input terminal for inputting a first color difference signal (see input terminal 132 that inputs color difference signal B-Y);

c) a third signal input terminal for inputting a second color difference signal (see input terminal 133 that inputs color difference signal R-Y);

d) YC separation means for separating and outputting another luminance signal and a carrier color signal from a composite video signal (see YC separation circuit 135 that separates the composite signal CV into luminance signal Y and carrier color signal C);

e) color difference decoding means for inputting the carrier color signal output from the YC separation means, and decoding and outputting another first color difference signal and another second color difference signal (see color difference decoder circuit 136);

Art Unit: 2615

f) first switching means for inputting the luminance signal input from the first signal input terminal and the another luminance signal output from the YC separation means, and outputting one of the signals input therein (see Switch 137);

g) second switching means for inputting the first color difference signal input from the second signal input terminal and the another first color difference signal output by the color difference decoding means, and outputting one of the signals input therein (see switch 139);

h) third switching means for inputting the second color difference signal input from the third signal input terminal and the another second color difference signal output by the color difference decoding means, and outputting one of the signals input therein (see switch 139);

I) signal switching control means for outputting a signal for switching outputs of the first switching means, the second switching means and the third switching means (see input signal switching control circuit 134).

Applicant admitted prior art Fig.13 fails to explicitly disclose wherein one terminal among the first signal input terminal, the second signal input terminal and the third signal input terminal also receives composite video signal.

Hatae et al teach a signal processing method for processing video signals wherein the input switch 4 (which examiner reads as input terminal) receives both luminance signal Y from terminal 31 and composite signal from terminal 38 (see Fig.2, change-over switch 4, terminal 31 and terminal 38; col.6, lines 9-26 and col.7, line 65 to col.8, line 5).

Art Unit: 2615

It would have been obvious to modify applicant admitted prior art Fig. 13 by having one input terminal to receive both luminance signal, for example, and the composite signal, as taught by Hatae, in order to receive both the luminance signal and the composite signal through a common input terminal, thereby reducing construction costs.

Regarding claim 5, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 13 now modified with Hatae discloses switching means connected between the one terminal which also receives the composite video signal and an input terminal of the YC separation means for performing an ON/OFF operation according to the input terminal by the switching means (see Hatae Fig. 2, change-over switch 4 and the Y/C separation circuit 6).

Regarding claim 6, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 13 now modified with Hatae discloses wherein the terminal which receives the luminance signal and composite is connected directly to YC separation means (see Fig. 2 of Hatae; and change-over switch 4 which is directly connected to YC separation circuit 6).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 7&8 are allowable over the prior art of record.
6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 7, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig.13 and Hatae et al (US 6,091,880) and wherein Hatae teaches a signal processing method for processing video signals.

However, applicant's admitted prior art Fig.13 and Hatae et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal recording and reproduction device where the recording and reproduction device further comprises input signal switching means provided between one terminal selected from the first signal input terminal, the second signal input terminal and the third signal input terminal, the one terminal used for receiving the composite video signal for the YC separation means, switching means for inputting a component video signal input in the one terminal used for receiving the composite video signal and one of an out signal of the YC separation means and an output signal of the color difference decoding means, and outputting one of the signals input therein, and switching control means for outputting a signal for switching the input signal switching means and the switching means.

Regarding claim 8, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

Art Unit: 2615

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig.13 and Hatae et al (US 6,091,880) and wherein Hatae teaches a signal processing method for processing video signals.

However, applicant admitted prior art Fig.13 and Hatae et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal recording and reproduction device where the recording and reproduction device further comprises input signal switching means for outputting a signal input in one terminal used for receiving the composite video signal input terminal, to one of the YC separation means and video signal recording means, the one terminal is selected from the first signal input terminal, the second signal input terminal and the third signal input terminal and the switching control means for outputting a signal for switching the input signal switching means.

7. Claims 9-11&13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 9, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig.14 and Marumoto et al (US 5,774,190) wherein Marumoto et al teach an encoder for converting digital display signals into analog television signals.

Art Unit: 2615

However, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal reproduction device where the reproduction device further comprises a switching means for inputting an output of the adding means and an output signal from among the luminance signal reproduction means, the first color difference signal reproduction means and the second color difference signal reproduction means, and outputting one of the signals input therein, and wherein one terminal among the luminance signal output terminal, the first color difference signal output terminal and the second color difference signal output terminal is used commonly as a composite video signal output terminal.

Regarding claim 10, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al (US 5,774,190) wherein Marumoto et al teach an encoder for converting digital display signals into analog television signals.

However, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal reproduction device where the reproduction device further comprises a switch means provided between an output terminal of the color signal encoding means and an input terminal of the adding means for determining whether to add or not to add the carrier color signal

Art Unit: 2615

of the color signal encoding means, and wherein the luminance signal output terminal is used commonly as a composite video signal output terminal.

Regarding claim 11, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al (US 5,774,190) wherein Marumoto et al teach an encoder for converting digital display signals into analog television signals.

However, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal reproduction device where the reproduction device further comprises first switching means provided between an output terminal of the first color difference signal reproduction means and an input terminal of the color signal encoding means for turning on an off an output signal of the first color difference signal reproduction means, second switching means provided between an output terminal of the second color difference signal reproduction means and an input terminal of the color signal encoding means for turning on an off an output signal of the second color difference signal reproduction means, and output signal switching control means for controlling the first switching means and the second switching means.

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 13, the invention relates to a video signal recording and reproduction device and a video signal reproduction device that processes component video signals and composite video signals.

The closes references applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al (US 5,774,190) wherein Marumoto et al teach an encoder for converting digital display signals into analog television signals.

However, applicant admitted prior art Fig. 14 and Marumoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a video signal reproduction device where the reproduction device further comprises means for controlling whether to add or not to add the carrier color signal output by the color signal encoding means.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kanota et al (US 5,909,532) teach a recording/reproducing apparatus and method for digitally recording and reproducing a television signal. Composed of a luminance signal, a chrominance signal and a resolution compensation signal.

Iwaibana et al (US 5,200,834) teach a reproducing system for a chrominance signal in a digital video tape recorder.

Ohtsu et al (US 4,884,151) teach a recording and reproducing apparatus which incorporates an image pick-up function, and which is handy to carry, and wherein color signal recording means is simplified in the recording system.

Art Unit: 2615

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from this examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is (703) 308-7555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Thursday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Monday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen, can be reached on (703) 308-9644.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

and (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Customer Service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

COO

3/22/03

THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER